सार्वजनिक / सहकारी क्षेत्र में 212.20 करोड़ रुपये की अनुमानित लागत से प्रतिवर्ष 3.70 लाख टन एनपीके तथा 2.27 लाख टन डीएपी की अतिरिक्त क्षमता सृजित करने के लिए इंडियन फारमर्स फर्टिलाइजर कोआपरेटिव लि॰ की काण्डला विस्तार परियोजना एकमात्र प्रमुख उर्वरक परियोजना है जो कार्यान्वयनाधीन है। इस परियोजना की अनुमोदित लागत के भीतर और निर्धारित समय-सारणी के अनुसार 22.10.1999 तक शुरू होने की आशा है।

Dues of Sugarcane Growers

*291. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount due to sugarcane growers, State-wise;

(b) what are the reasons for the same; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to ensure that the farmers are paid their dues on time?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) and (b) The latest available statewise position of cane price arrears for the season 1997-98 as on 15.10.1998 prepared on the basis of the information furnished by sugar mills, is at statement. (*see* below)

Percentage of arrears of price payable during the last 3 sugar seasons as given below would reveal that the cane price arrears for the season 1997-98 were the lowest as compared to the previous 2 seasons on the same date.

(Rs. In crores)

Season	Position as on	Total price payable	Total price paid	Arrears	% of Arrears on Price payable
1997-98	15.10.98	7954.69	7740.88	213.81	2.7
1996-97	15.10.97	7661.48	7364.86	296.61	3.9
1995-96	15.10.96	10227.60	9620.52	607.09	5.9

(c) The responsibility for ensuring timely payment of cane price dues lies with the State Governments who have necessary powers and field organisations to enforce such payments. Central Government has been pursuing a policy of encouraging stability and reasonable level of sugar prices in the domestic market through judicious release of freesale quota and helping deserving specific cases with higher freesale sugar quota as measures to enable clearance of cane price dues of the farmers.

Statement

State-wise Position of Cane Prices Payable, Price Paid and Balance outstanding for cane Purchased during 1997-98 Season

(Figures in Lakh Rs.)

State	Total Price Payable for cane Purchased during 1997-98 upto 15.10.98	Cane Price Paid upto 15.10.98	Balance Cane Price Payable as on 15.10.98
Punjab	26882.92	26050.90	832.02
Haryana	24346.47	24302.38	44.09
Rajasthan	1360.52	994.41	366.11
U.P.	232785.44	220949.29	11836.17
Madhya Pradesh	3530.82	3378.82	152.00
Gujarat	67046.35	66214.62	831.73
Maharashtra	207721.46	206212.63	1508.83
Bihar	19625.71	19178.40	447.31
Assam	271.31	271.31	0.00
Andhra Pradesh	49216.22	49055.77	160.45
Karnataka	60822.77	59697.16	1125.61
Tamil Nadu	93927.94	89851.93	4076.01
Kerala	326.21	326.21	0.00
Orissa	2796.34	2795.90	0.44
West Bengal	274.67	274.67	0.00
Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pondicherry	3486.16	3485.99	0.17
Goa	1047.59	1047.59	0.00
ALL INDIA	795468.90	774087.98	21380.92

Rodent Excreta in Foodgrains

*292. SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA:
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rodent hair and excreta are legally permissible in foodgrains, as reported in the Times of India, New Delhi dated the 15th November, 1998;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a study has been made about the possibility of long-term toxic effects of eating foodgrains mixed with rat excreta; and

(d) if so, the reasons and findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) to (d) Under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules